

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising

a receiver to receive a first broadcast stream, a first priority indicator associated with said first broadcast stream, and a second media; and

a second priority indicator associated with the second media, the ~~unit~~ system permitting automatic insertion of the second media or an indication of the second media into an audio or visual presentation of the system based on a comparison of said first priority indicator and said second priority indicator associated with said second media;

wherein the automatic insertion of said second media is ~~based on the priority indicator~~ and such that the content of the first broadcast stream is not interrupted ~~lost~~.

2. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 1 wherein the priority indicators ~~associated with the second media~~ comprise numbers, letters, or symbols.

3. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 1 wherein the second media and the first broadcast stream are the same media.

4. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 1 wherein second media and the first broadcast stream are different media.

5. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 1 wherein an event triggers the second media insertion into the first broadcast stream.

6. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 5 wherein the event that triggers the second media insertion into the first broadcast stream includes notification that an e-mail message has arrived.

7. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 1 wherein a signal that is needed to change the priority indicator of the media insertion is programmed by a time mark, the time mark synchronizing the second media insertion with the first broadcast stream.

8. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 1 further wherein additional priority indicators are associated with the first broadcast stream using a pilot tone or watermark.

9. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 1 wherein the priority indicators are assigned to the second media ~~insertions~~ by a user of the system.

10. (Original) The system of Claim 1 wherein the receiver is part of a television system or radio system.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of inserting ~~recorded~~ media into a broadcast stream, the method comprising:

transmitting a first broadcast stream , a first priority indicator associated with said first broadcast stream, and a second media to a receiver of a broadcast system, the second media having associated with it ~~one or more~~ a second priority indicators indicator; and

automatically inserting the second media or an indication of the second media into an audio or video reproduction of the system based on a comparison of the first priority indicator and the second priority indicator associated with the second media;

wherein the second media is presented such that no content of the first broadcast stream is lost.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 11 wherein the priority indicators ~~associated with the second media~~ comprise numbers, letters, or symbols

13. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 11 wherein the second media and the first broadcast stream are the same media.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 11 wherein the second media and the first broadcast stream are different media.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 11 wherein an event triggers the second media insertion into the first broadcast stream.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 15 wherein the event that triggers the second media insertion into the first broadcast stream includes notification that an e-mail message has arrived.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 11 wherein a broadcaster may further assign a plurality of additional priority indicators to different segments of the first broadcast

stream, the additional priority indicators embedded into the first broadcast stream using a pilot tone or watermark.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 11 wherein a broadcaster may assign a plurality of additional priority indicators to different segments of the first broadcast stream based on a subdivision or geographic area, the additional plurality of priority indicators allowing broadcasters to sell advertising space for the particular subdivision or geographic area.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 11 wherein a signal used to change the priority indicator of the media insertion is programmed by a time mark, the time mark synchronizing the second media insertion with the first broadcast stream.

20. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:

a receiver in the set-top box to receive a first broadcast stream a first priority indicator associated with said first broadcast stream, and a second media; and

~~one or more~~ a second priority indicators indicator associated with the second media, the unit permitting insertion of the second media or an indication of the second media into an audio or video reproduction of the system based on a comparison of the first priority indicator and the second priority indicator associated with the second media;

wherein the second media is presented such that no content of the first broadcast stream is lost.

21. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 20 wherein the priority indicators ~~associated with the second media~~ comprise numbers, letters, or symbols.

22. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 20 wherein the second media and the first broadcast stream are the same media.

23. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 20 wherein the second media and the first broadcast stream are different media.

24. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 20 wherein an event triggers the second media insertion into the first broadcast stream.

25. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 24 wherein the event that triggers the second media insertion into the first broadcast stream includes notification that an e-mail message has arrived.

26. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable storage medium tangibly embodying a sequence of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for inserting ~~recorded~~ media into a broadcast stream, the method comprising:

transmitting a first broadcast stream a first priority indicator associated with said first broadcast stream and a second media to a receiver of a broadcast system, the second media having associated with it ~~one or more~~ a second priority indicators indicator; and

inserting the second media or an indication of the second media into an audio or video reproduction of the system based on a comparison of the first priority indicator and the second priority indicator associated with the second media;

wherein the second media is inserted such that no content of the first broadcast stream is lost.

27. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage medium of Claim 26 wherein the priority indicators ~~associated with the second media~~ comprise numbers, letters, or symbols.

28. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of Claim 26 wherein the second media and the first broadcast stream are the same media.

29. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of Claim 26 wherein the second media and the first broadcast stream are different media.

30. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of Claim 26 wherein an event triggers the second media insertion into the broadcast stream.

31. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of Claim 30 wherein the event that triggers the second media insertion into the first broadcast stream includes notification that an e-mail message has arrived.

32. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of Claim 26 wherein a broadcaster may assign a plurality of additional priority indicators to different segments of a

the first broadcast stream, the additional priority indicators embedded into the first broadcast stream using a pilot tone or watermark.

33. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of Claim 26 wherein a broadcaster may assign a plurality of additional priority indicators to different segments of the first broadcast stream based on a subdivision or geographic area, the plurality of additional priority indicators allowing broadcasters to sell advertising space for the particular subdivision or geographic area.

34. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage medium of Claim 26 wherein the priority indicators are assigned to the second media ~~insertions~~ by a local user of the system.

35. (Withdrawn) The machine-readable storage medium of Claim 26 wherein a signal used to change the priority indicator of the media insertion is programmed by a time mark, the time mark synchronizing the second media insertion with the first broadcast stream.

36. (New) A method of inserting media into a broadcast stream, the method comprising:

transmitting a first broadcast stream including a plurality of programs wherein each of said plurality of programs has an associated priority indicator;

transmitting a second media including a second media priority indicator;

automatically inserting the second media or an indication of the second media based on a comparison of said associated priority indicator of said plurality of programs in said first broadcast stream and said second media priority indicator;

wherein said second media is presented such that no content of the first broadcast stream is lost.